

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

The paragraph beginning at page X, line Y is amended as follows:

Another procedure which may be utilized to increase the speed of the discovery process is a batch request mechanism. When a packet is sent around a subnet during a discovery process, it includes particular instructions which are processed by the end nodes that it reaches. These are defined as method and attribute ID fields in the packet. These may describe a job such as GET, SET and so forth as are known in the referenced specifications in the background of the invention. The attribute ID describes the job that [[it]] is specific to the packet. Some methods like GET will have zero data input in the data area of the packet, with information being added during their response. Since there may be more than one GET request during the discovery process, it is possible to use the attribute ID and attribute modifier fields effectively in order to group these requests together into a batch. In other words, when a packet reaches an end node, instead of asking for a specific detail to be forwarded back to the subnet manager, as shown in Fig. 13, multiple instructions 340 are followed at the same time.